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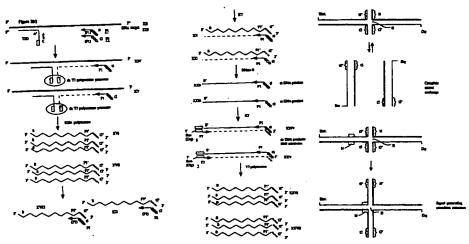
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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: HOMOGENEOUS ISOTHERMAL AMPLIFICATION AND DETECTION OF NUCLEIC ACIDS USING A TEM-PLATE SWITCH OLIGONUCLEOTIDE



(57) Abstract: An isothermal, transcription-based nucleic acid amplification method based on the formation of a target-dependent nucleic acid species by template switching. This product species can be amplified further to produce multiple copies of both double stranded DNA products and single stranded RNA product. The single stranded RNA amplification products are the same sense as the target sequence. Also provided is a branch migration inhibition based procedure for scanning nucleic acid sequences using the strand switch isothermal amplification. A template switch oligonucleotide used in the amplification includes a 3' region capable of hybridizing to a target sequence and a 5' region which does not hybridize to the target. The 5' region includes a promoter sequence of DNA dependent RNA polymerase. A first primer and a second primer may be used during amplification and detection. The first primer is capable of hybridizing to the target and the second primer is not target dependent. For detection, either the first primer or the second primer has a label.



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nal Application No PCT/US 00/13526 A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 C12Q1/68 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) C12Q Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the, international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, MEDLINE, BIOSIS, EMBASE, CHEM ABS Data C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Cltation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. χ WO 97 24455 A (CLONTECH LAB INC) 1,2, 10 July 1997 (1997-07-10) 8-10,13, 16-18, 24,25,28 see whole doc. esp. claims and examples Α PATEL R. ET AL.,: "Formation of chimeric 1-51 DNA primer extension products by template switching onto an annealed downstream oligonucleotide" PROC. NATL. ACAD. SCI, USA, vol. 93, - April 1996 (1996-04) pages 2969-2974, XP002158856 cited in the application the whole document Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents: 'T' later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international \*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone YY document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed \*&\* document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 30 January 2001 22/02/2001

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